



# Lunenburg Public Schools

**Loxi Jo Calmes**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Wednesday, October 20, 2010  
Brooks House – 7:00 p.m.

## Minutes

### School Committee

David Reif, Chair  
Donna White  
Jason Poitras  
Gregory Berthiaume - absent  
Colleen Shapiro

### Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

### Recording Secretary

Mary Landi

### Student Representative

Stephen Flaherty

### Guests

Dan Proctor, Corinne Scouten  
Jessica Beardmore, Christine Bonci  
Sara Lane, Karen Martin

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\* Call to Order – Dr. Reif called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

\* Chairman's Report

\* Review and Approve Minutes

- October 6, 2010 Regular Session Minutes – Dr. Reif approved the minutes.
- October 6, 2010 Executive Session Minutes – Dr. Reif approved the minutes.

\* Review and Approve Warrants

\* Superintendent's Report

- Superintendent Calmes informed the committee that Ms. Kerry Cooper joined the staff this past Monday. Ms. Cooper will be the School Accounting Services/Database Manager.
- Interviews for a part-time Accounts Payable Clerk are underway. We anticipate filling that position by next Monday.
- Superintendent Calmes thanked Mr. Londa for his assistance in the cleanup of the courtyard at the middle school. She also thanked Mr. Proctor, who was in attendance.
- Ms. Hillman, who teaches a Global Issues class at LHS, brought in a photographer who is involved with the EPHAS project, which relates to community service learning.
- Senator Flanagan visited Mr. Warren Stevenson's government class at the high school.

\* Student Report

- Dr. Reif welcomed Stephen Flaherty, student representative from Lunenburg High School.
- Mr. Flaherty reported that it has been a busy year so far. The Bullying Policy has been presented in individual homerooms by Mr. Spadafino and Mr. Barney, which has resulted in good discussion being generated around this issue.
- The marching band placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in a recent competition.
- The NHS is bringing Rachel's Challenge to the high school. The program was inspired by a student involved with the Columbine incident. The hope is that it will promote consideration for others and good school atmosphere.
- The homecoming rally is scheduled for Friday and homecoming will be on Saturday. The parade will begin at 12:30 from THMS and end at the high school. The football game will be at 2:30. This year's theme is cartoons.

Superintendent Calmes invited everyone to attend the events.

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- \* Public Comment – Ms. Shapiro reported on Nature’s classroom, since she was there as a parent chaperone. It was very rainy. The staff commented that they really enjoyed the TCP students who were energetic and engaged, polite and respectful of everyone.

- \* New Business

- a. Adult Basketball – Mr. Proctor and Ms. Scouten were in attendance to discuss the adult basketball players using the gymnasium at the Primary school. The Lunenburg Youth basketball teams have reserved all available gym time at this time, so there is no time left for the adults, who would like to use it on Monday and Friday evenings at the Primary School. Mr. Proctor asked if they have any options in terms of coming up with an hourly figure to be able to use the facility. There is a dollar figure for non-profit organizations. Superintendent Calmes reviewed the priorities for use of school facilities structure; non-profits are #6 on the list. They could be considered under #4 with a \$10/hour fee to cover costs. Discussion ensued. Mr. Poitras moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to waive the policy and set a fee of \$50 per night for 2 hours, \$25/hour. There was discussion around other groups then wanting to use the facilities on other evenings. Vote on the motion: unanimous. Mr. Londa stated that the Primary School gymnasium would be available at 6:30 on Mondays and Fridays. The school department will bill the parks and rec department and the adult basketball leagues will pay parks and rec.
- b. Trip to Quebec – Ms. Beardmore joined the committee to talk about the proposed trip to Quebec. She explained the “Carnival” aspect of Quebec, which is a celebration of winter, snow and all the activities involved. She reviewed the itinerary, including all the educational opportunities that will be provided to the students. The cost is \$798 per student. A promotion is being offered for a potential savings of \$100 per student. If enough students sign up, there is a potential savings of \$264 per student. Superintendent Calmes recommended approval of the trip. Ms. Shapiro moved and Mr. Poitras seconded a motion to approve the superintendent’s recommendation of the Quebec trip as presented. Vote: unanimous.
- c. FY12 Proposed Budget – Instructional Services – Ms. Martin joined the committee at the table. She reviewed the FY12 proposed budget. This is in anticipation of funding curriculum adoption in math, and integrated arts and health, which has been on hold for two years. ARRA funds have been used the past two years. Ms. Martin reviewed the professional development expenses, which include memberships, trainings, conferences, books, videos, and supplies. Ms. Martin also gave an update on instructional services, including happenings from this past summer, current and upcoming coaching, and PD classes. She also talked about web-based learning tools and Community Service Learning projects (Study Island).
- d. FY12 Proposed Budget and SIP Update – TCP – Dr. Lane joined the committee at the table. She began her presentation with the proposed FY12 budget for TCP. She reviewed the lines with increases from FY11, including furniture – one classroom set. Next, Dr. Lane reviewed the School Improvement Plan touching on the highlights. Dr. Lane will be implementing an after-school program, which will focus on project-based learning. She is accepting proposals for projects and will be surveying students to see what they’re interested in. Superintendent Calmes apprised the committee about a parent survey that she would like to send out to parents. She asked them for feedback so the survey can be sent out in a few weeks. She would like to have it available for teacher conferences to inform parents.
- e. FY12 Proposed Budget and SIP Update – Primary School – Ms. Bonci joined the committee at the table to review her proposed FY12 budget for the Primary School. She highlighted the lines with increases and gave explanations for each of them. She would like more books to build up early literacy. Ms. Bonci next gave a brief review of the improvements at the primary school in terms of what students are able to do and gave examples. There was discussion around developmental stages for academics/social skills; structuring classrooms; and providing additional supports for those who need it. They are working on school-wide language and structure. Ms. Bonci expressed her concern around a rise in students with significant behavior issues. She sees a need for more guidance support or behavioral support.
- f. Preschool Tuition Rate for FY12-14 – Tabled to a future meeting.
- g. Yellow School Bus Grants – Superintendent Calmes explained that the Mass Arts Council funds \$200 grants per school for transportation to cultural events. The superintendent recommended approval for the principals to apply for the grants. Ms. Shapiro moved and Mr. Poitras seconded a motion to accept the superintendent’s recommendation. Vote: unanimous.
- h. RTTT Grant – Superintendent Calmes reviewed the Race To The Top grant. For the first year, only up to 15 percent of the funds will be awarded. Funds are to be used for training teachers on data analysis in contract with a state approved vendor. The superintendent listed the opportunities that will be targeted over the course of the four years of the grant. Some initial costs will be funded from the school

budget. Superintendent Calmes recommended approval of the grant as presented. Mr. Poitras moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation of the RTTT grant. Vote: unanimous.

\* Old Business

- \* Public Comment – Mr. Poitras asked to revisit the concept of out-of-school suspensions versus in-house. This can be a discussion at the first November meeting.

\* Reports

- a. Advisory Committee
- b. Finance Committee
- c. School Councils
- d. PTO
- e. Policy Sub-Committee
- f. Capital Planning Committee
- g. Health Advisory Committee
- h. PAC/SAL
- i. Regional Planning Committee
- j. Rep. Benson's Advisory – cancelled to after the election
- l. Other – Dr. Reif informed Mr. Mackin, a member of the audience, that the head injury protocol has been implemented.

\* Continuing Projects/Estimated Date of Completion

\* Items for Future Discussion

- Workshop Sessions
- Facilities Use Procedure
- Civic Engagement

- \* Executive Session – At 9:12 p.m. Mr. Poitras moved and Ms. White seconded a motion to enter into executive session, not to return to regular session, for the purpose of a discussion related to collective bargaining strategies. Vote: unanimous.

Roll Call

Dr. Reif – yes

Mr. Poitras – yes

Ms. Shapiro – yes

Ms. White – yes

Dr. Berthiaume – not present

- \* Adjournment - At 9:28 p.m. Mr. Poitras moved and Mrs. Shapiro seconded a motion to adjourn. Vote: unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Landi  
Recording Secretary

c/5/25/6/mel